

"President Cummings has always manifested great love for the people of Wasatch Stake and his special interest in and concern for the young people has been widely noted."

Chosen to serve as counselors to President Call were Wayne C. Whiting and Ralph T. Carlile. Elmo Jacobsen and J. Clark Crook were sustained as stake clerks.

During the years the following men have served as patriarchs in Wasatch Stake: Thomas H. Giles, Henry S. Alexander, John McDonald, John M. Murdoch, Thomas Hicken, Nymphus C. Murdock, John Duke, Franklin J. Fraughton, Robert S. Duke, William Daybell, Henry T. Coleman, John A. Fortie and Ralph F. Giles who is the patriarch presently serving in 1961.

A statistical report of the stake in 1961 showed a stake membership of 4,958, divided among the wards as follows: Wallsburg, 321; Charleston, 280; Daniel, 291; Center, 244; Midway First, 427; Midway Second, 358; Heber First, 544; Heber Second, 407; Heber Third, 523; Heber Fourth, 499; Heber Fifth, 467 and Heber Sixth, 597.

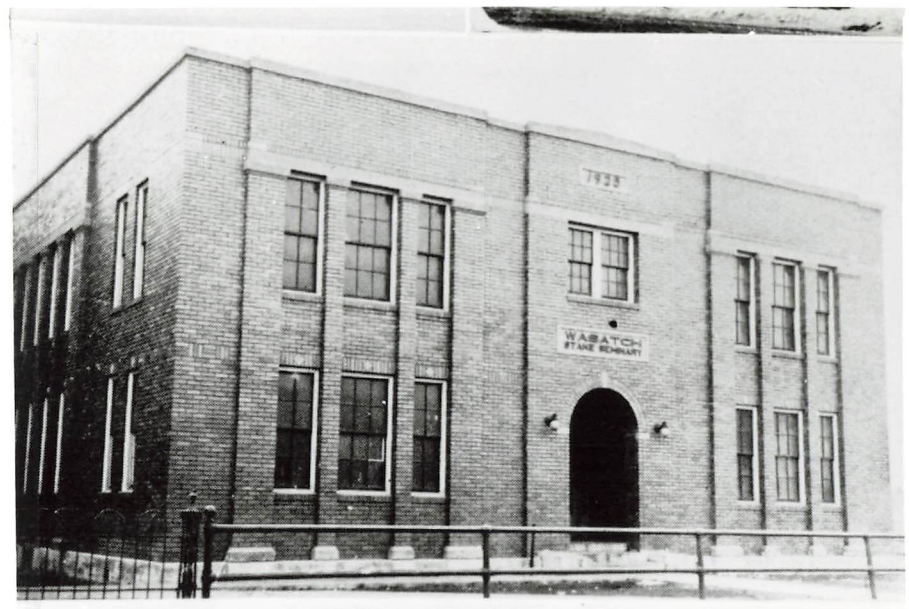
Religious education, whether in Church auxiliary organizations or Church sponsored day schools, has always been a vital part of life for Latter-day Saints. As will be pointed out in the next chapter, a Stake Academy was organized by the Church in 1888 and great emphasis was placed in the curriculum on theological subjects. Several other Church educational programs were instituted, including week-day religion classes, with the present seminary and institute program finally evolving.

A seminary program in conjunction with high school work was first considered by the Wasatch Stake Presidency in March of 1918. President Joseph R. Murdock and his counselors James C. Jensen and G. Frank Ryan, approved the new program and made arrangements to use the Heber Third Ward for classroom instruction.

\* Earnest A. Jacobsen was appointed as the first seminary teacher and began holding classes in the Third Ward. However, by September 15, 1918, the ward chapel had proved inconvenient and so the Seminary instruction was moved to a vacant room in the high school building. The Church reimbursed the school district \$100 per year for use of the room.

The first seminary class met until about the middle of the school year when an epidemic of influenza forced the program to be discontinued. As a result none of the students completed requirements for graduation that year.

By September of 1919 the second year of seminary instruction was ready to begin and classes were again scheduled in the Heber Third Ward. Meanwhile, the Tidwell lot, or the old home of Bishop Henry Clegg and his wife, Ann, just north of the high school, was purchased as the site for a new seminary building. The purchase was made March 21, 1920, but it was 1925 before the building was torn down and work started



Wasatch Stake Seminary Building

on a new building. In the meantime, the home itself was used for seminary class instruction.

Materials for the new seminary building came from several sources. Much usable material was obtained from the Clegg home when it was torn down, and about that same time the Heber Tithing and Grocery building was torn down and part of this material was used in the seminary. Later in the year the Heber Central School burned, but some usable materials were salvaged and purchased for use in the seminary building construction.

When completed the seminary building had cost some \$25,000, including furnishings and equipment. Half the cost was borne from general Church funds, and the nine wards of the stake contributed the other half.

This method of financing Church buildings—part of the expense being borne by the Church general funds and the balance by the local wards or stake—was instituted during the presidency of Heber J. Grant. Prior to that time local areas had to finance the entire cost of their building projects. Many of the early Church buildings in Wasatch Stake, including the Stake Tabernacle, were built and dedicated without any general Church participation.

Elder Jacobsen, the first seminary principal, served in Heber until 1920 when he was transferred to the Vernal seminary. Those who followed him at the seminary have included: Ralph F. Nilsson, 1920-1923; David A. Broadbent, 1923-1937; Heber M. Rasband, 1925-1927; Royden C. Braithwaite, 1937-1941; Wendell M. Rigby, 1937-1942; Harold H.